

# **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION FEE PROGRAM SUMMARY FY11 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**NAME OF FEE PROJECT:** AZ04 ARAVAIPA CANYON SPECIAL    **STATE:** AZ  
**RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA**

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## **AREA DESCRIPTION:**

The Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness consists of 19,410 acres. The area is extremely popular for hiking, backpacking, and wildlife viewing. Recreation-use is limited to 20 visitors per day from the east end and 30 per day from the west end. Facilities at the east end include the Klondyke Ranger Station, manned by volunteer site hosts from October to April, and a trailhead for the canyon. The trailhead has a restroom, fee station, parking area, and informational kiosk. At the west end is the Brandenburg Ranger Station, which is staffed by a full-time park ranger. This facility is a visitor contact area with a parking area, restroom, and an overnight camping area for canyon visitors.

## **FEE SCHEDULE:**

The fee for the individual use of the special management area is established locally:

Special Recreation Permit for Aravaipa Canyon: \$5.00/person/day

## **SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY11:**

### **Visitor Services, Interpretation:**

Funds in FY11 were spent on an agreement with the Graham County Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of maintaining and operating a Tourist Information Center in the Chamber of Commerce building. The purpose of the center is to provide outdoor recreation information to visitors to Graham County and to educate visitors about the land, its resources and opportunities, proper land-use ethics, and the agencies that manage the land.

Funds were used to provide supplies to the site hosts at the east end for the operation of the ranger station. The site hosts assist visitors, monitor fee compliance, provide maintenance as needed and are available as a point of contact for emergency assistance for law enforcement and medical needs. In addition, they help to provide a good working relationship with our neighbors in the area. Funds also went to pay a portion of the Park Ranger's salary for a salt cedar removal project, visitor contacts, fee compliance, and search and rescue assistance.

**Repair, Maintenance, and Facility Enhancement:**

Fees were used to cover the annual operating costs of keeping the facility maintained and clean. This included paying for labor to maintain the road to the Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness trailhead and providing funds for replacement interpretive signage at the Klondye Ranger Station.

**Wildlife Habitat Restoration, Resource Protection:**

Funds were spent on a youth partnership with Northern Arizona University to conduct wilderness monitoring (Limits of Acceptable Change) and then rehabilitation of damaged areas based on the results of the monitoring program.

**PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FY12:**

- Continuing the Northern Arizona University Project.
- Continuing the Graham County Chamber of Commerce Agreement.
- Continuing the Site Host Program at the Klondyke Ranger Station
- Cover the annual operating costs of keeping the facility maintained and clean.